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Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2026 10:58 AM

To: SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>; Sen. Lauria, Pamela J. <sen-lauria@rilegislature.gov>; June Speakman <june.speakman@gmail.com>

Subject: Senate Bill No. 2874

Chairwoman Murray and members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

I write in support of SB #2874 which creates the position of dementia services coordinator within the department of health to coordinate the departments' approach to Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

This Dementia Coordinator position will join with 33 other States to coordinate the department's approach to addressing Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia including, but not limited to, public awareness, prevention, and early detection.

There are 24,000 Rhode Islanders living with Alzheimer's. 11.4% of Rhode Islanders over 65 have Alzheimer's disease. Creating this position can result in successful implementation of the State's Alzheimer's plans which will help families in Rhode Island navigate the care for those afflicted with Alzheimers and other types of dementia.

I urge your support for SB #2874.

Sandra Darling, AARP Advocacy Volunteer and Retired RN

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